

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8349
INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3632

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ANDREW YOUNG), PFOR, SHUM, EAID, UN, JM, US
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO JAMAICA: OBSERVATIONS

1. IT WAS EVIDENT THROUGHOUT AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT
(DETAILS REPORTED SEPTELS) THAT THE GOJ ATTACHED GREAT
IMPORTANCE TO IT. FOLLOWING IN THE WAKE OF MRS. CARTER'S
VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT, IT WAS INTERPRETED AS A FURTHER INDI-
CATION OF U.S. INTEREST IN THE CARIBBEAN IN GENERAL AND
JAMAICA IN PARTICULAR. THE FACT THAT JAMAICA WAS THE FIRST
STOP ON THE TOUR, AND THE LONGEST, AND YOUNG'S OBVIOUS
RESPECT FOR MANLEY AND ASSURANCES OF OUR WISH TO DO EVERY-
THING POSSIBLE TO HELP JAMAICA REACH ITS OWN OBJECTIVES
CONTRIBUTED TO AN ATMOSPHERE OF CORDIALITY BUT ALSO
PROBABLY RAISED EXPECTATIONS WHICH WILL NEED TO BE MET
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IF THAT CORDIALITY IS TO BE MAINTAINED. IT WAS MADE CLEAR
THAT WORDS WITHOUT DEEDS WILL NOT SATISFY JAMAICAN
ASPIRATIONS.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS: IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE GOJ BELIEVES
IT HAS ADOPTED A STANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS THAT HAS EARNED
JAMAICA A REPUTATION FOR INTEGRITY AND MODERATION AS A

LEADER OF THE NONALIGNED. WHETHER THE GOJ WILL BE WILLING TO TAKE

A STRONG STAND IN FAVOR OF NEW HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES AT THE 32ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY REMAINS TO BE SEEN. FIRST INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT IS UNLIKELY. THE GOJ CONSISTENTLY EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHED TO ECONOMIC RIGHTS OF PEOPLES (WHICH WAS RAISED BY GOJ VIRTUALLY EACH TIME AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DELEGATION RAISED THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE).

3. IMF AGREEMENT. THE IMF AGREEMENT IS SEEN BY MANY JAMAICANS AS NECESSARY TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, BUT LEADING TO DIFFICULTIES SUCH AS INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT WHICH WILL ADD TO ALREADY SERIOUS SOCIAL PRESSURES AND STRENGTHEN HAND OF MORE RADICAL ELEMENTS IN MANLEY'S PARTY.

4. MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE. JAMAICAN OFFICIALS SOTEWJD LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR A MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE EFFORT FOR THE CARIBBEAN OR INCREASED COOPERATION AMONG AID RECIPIENTS, NOTING THAT SURFACE SIMILARITIES TEND TO DISAPPEAR IN PRACTICE. THEY DID INDICATE A WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE IDEA OF A MORE COHERENT APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM OF CARIBBEAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

5. FRUSTRATING DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS. THERE IS PROFOUND FRUSTRATION AT INABILITY TO OVERCOME DIFFICULT
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INTERNATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH PLAY HAVOC WITH JAMAICAN DEVELOPMENT: OIL CRISIS, MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS (VIZ THE REVERE PROBLEM), TOURISM DIFFICULTIES, VOLATILE EXPORT EARNINGS (SUGAR IS PARTICULARLY WORRISOME NOW).

6. US-JAMAICAN CONTACTS. THERE IS GREATER WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE QUIETLY POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVED U.S.-JAMAICAN COOPERATION ON MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, E.G., COMMON FUND AND COMMODITIES.

7. ROCOMMENDATIONS. MORE FREQUENT PERSONAL INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS, EXPLORATION OF AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST ON MULTILATERAL QUESTIONS AND MORE SUBSTANTIAL U.S. SUPPORT FOR JAMAICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVE PROSPECTS FOR BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION WITH THIS INTELLECTUAL AND POLITICAL LEADER OF THE THIRD WORLD, AND HELP TO RELIEVE SOME OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH PRESENT A GROWING THREAT TO IT AND HENCE TO CARIBBEAN STABILITY.
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